



*Billing Code 3410-34

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

February 8, 2017

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are requested regarding (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER] will be considered.

Written comments should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), New Executive Office Building, 725 – 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20502. Commenters are encouraged to submit their comments to OMB via email to: OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, D.C. 20250-7602. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

TITLE: Importation of Fresh Bananas from the Philippines into the Continental United States

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0579-0394

SUMMARY OF COLLECTION: Under the Plant Protection Act (7 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.), the Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to carry out operations or measures to detect, eradicate, suppress, control, prevent, or retard the spread of plant pests new to the United States or not known to be widely distributed throughout the United States. The regulations in “Subpart-Fruit and Vegetables” (7 CFR 319.56, referred to as the regulations) prohibit or restrict the importation of fruits and vegetables into the United States from certain parts of the world to prevent the introduction and dissemination of plant pests that are new to or not widely distributed within the United States..

NEED AND USE OF THE INFORMATION: The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) uses the following information collection activities to allow the import of fresh bananas from the Philippines into the continental United States in accordance with the requirements which will restrict any plant pests from entering the United States: (1) Bilateral Workplan; (2) Production Site Registration; (3) Monitoring and Oversight; (4) Maintain All Forms and Documents that Include Fruit Fly Detections and Updating Records; (5) Carton Marking with Production Site Number; (6) Hard Green Stage Harvest Certification; (7) Investigations; (8) Fruit Fly Trapping for Low Pest Prevalence; (9) Shipping Documents; and (10) Phytosanitary Certificates with Declaration. Failure to collect this information would cripple APHIS’ ability to ensure that bananas from the Philippines are not carrying plant pests.

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS: Business or other for-profit; Federal Government

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 41

FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES: Recordkeeping; Reporting: Other: One time

TOTAL BURDEN HOURS: 1,330

Ruth Brown
Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer

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